

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-25. (Canceled)

26. **(Currently Amended)** A method for manufacturing a slipper that includes an upper attached to an outsole, ~~wherein the upper comprises an outsole attachment area attached to an outsole, a foot covering area, and a stabilizing member, wherein the stabilizing member is attached along the outsole attachment area to provide an insole receiving area between the stabilizing member and the foot covering area,~~ the method comprising:

- (a) providing the upper comprising an outsole attachment area, a foot covering area, and a stabilizing member,
- (b) attaching the stabilizing member along the outsole attachment area to provide an insole receiving area between the stabilizing member and the foot covering area;
- (c) attaching the outsole attachment area of the upper to the outsole;
- (ad) placing an insole within the insole receiving area, the insole comprising a result of compression molding a foam structure to form an insole comprising a foam layer having a first foam side and a second foam side, to provide an insole comprising:
  - (i) a heel region having a heel cushioning portion and a heel perimeter portion, wherein the heel perimeter portion comprises a retaining wall that extends above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion;
  - (ii) an arch region having an arch cushioning portion and an arch perimeter portion, wherein the arch perimeter portion comprises an arch support that extends above the top surface of the arch cushioning portion; and
  - (iii) a toe region having a toe cushioning portion and a toe perimeter portion; and
  - (iv) wherein the heel cushioning portion includes a first higher density foam area, and a first central lower density foam area substantially surrounded by the first higher density foam area, and a second lower density foam area positioned along a heel perimeter portion wherein the density of foam

~~in the first higher density foam area is higher than the density of foam in the first lower density foam area; and~~

(e) placing the insole within the insole receiving area.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of attaching the upper and the outsole ~~are attached by~~ comprises stitching the outsole attachment area to an outsole retaining wall along a circumference of the outsole.

28. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the insole comprises further comprising forming a laminate of the foam layer and a fabric layer having a first fabric side and a second fabric side, wherein the second fabric side is attached to the first foam side.

29. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of placing an insole within the insole receiving area comprises adhering the insole to the stabilizing member.

30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of compression molding a structure to form an insole comprises forming the first higher density foam area to have ~~has~~ a height that is less than a height of the first lower density foam area.

31. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30, wherein:

(a) the step of compression molding a structure to form an insole comprises forming a difference between the height of the first lower density foam area and the first higher density foam area of ~~is~~ at least 1/16 inch so that the first lower density foam area projects above the surface of the first higher density foam area on the first foam side; and

(b) the insole is placed within the insole receiving area with the first foam area facing the foot covering area.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30, wherein the step of compression molding a structure to form an insole comprises forming a difference between the

height of the first lower density foam area and the first higher density foam area of~~s~~ at most 3/16 inch.

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30, wherein the compression molding step is carried out on a unitary piece of foam to create the insole, so that the first high and low density foam areas are part of the unitary piece of foam~~the first lower density foam area is centrally located in the heel cushioning portion and the first higher density foam area surrounds the heel cushioning portion.~~

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 33, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the first lower density foam area is surrounded by a plurality of isolated lower density foam areas wherein the plurality of isolated lower density foam areas are separated from each other by portions of the first higher density foam area.

35. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 33, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the first lower density foam area is oval shaped.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the toe perimeter portion does not include a retaining wall.

37. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the heel cushioning portion comprises a starburst pattern.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein further comprising providing ethylene vinyl acetate for the formation of the foam layer comprises ethylene vinyl acetate.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the structure comprises further comprising forming a laminate of the foam layer and a fabric layer having a

first fabric side and a second fabric side, wherein the second fabric side is attached to the first foam side.

40. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 39, further comprising providing the fabric layer wherein the fabric layer has a nap of less than 4 mm.

41. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the arch perimeter portion comprises a retaining wall that extends above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion.

42. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 41, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the retaining wall of the heel perimeter portion extends about 1/4 inch to about 1 inch above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion.

43. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the arch support extends about 1/4 inch to about 1 inch above the top surface of the arch cushioning portion.

44. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein further comprising creating a plurality of perforations in the arch support comprises a plurality of perforations for increasing the flexibility of the arch support.

45. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, further comprising creating a plurality of perforations in wherein at least one of the heel region, the arch region, and the toe region comprises a plurality of perforations for increasing air circulation.

46. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45, wherein the perforations are created in the heel region, arch region and toe region comprise a plurality of perforations for increasing air circulation.

47. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 46, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the insole comprises a perforation-free area, that is adjacent to the heel region, arch region and toe region.

48. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the arch region comprises a plurality of perforations and the perforations in the arch region are concentrated on and near the arch support.

49. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the toe region comprises perforations and the perforations in the toe region are concentrated near an end of the insole.

50. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 45, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the heel region comprises perforations and the perforations in the heel region are concentrated in the first lower density foam area.

51. (New) A method for manufacturing a slipper that includes an upper attached to an outsole, the method comprising:

- (a) providing the upper comprising an outsole attachment area and a foot covering area,
- (b) attaching the outsole attachment area of the upper to the outsole to provide an insole receiving area between the outsole and the foot covering area;
- (c) compression molding a foam structure to form an insole comprising a foam layer having a first foam side and a second foam side, to provide an insole comprising:
  - (i) a heel region having a heel cushioning portion and a heel perimeter portion, wherein the heel perimeter portion comprises a retaining wall that extends above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion;
  - (ii) an arch region having an arch cushioning portion and an arch perimeter portion, wherein the arch perimeter portion comprises an arch support that extends above the top surface of the arch cushioning portion; and

- (iii) a toe region having a toe cushioning portion and a toe perimeter portion; and
- (iv) wherein the heel cushioning portion includes a first higher density foam area and a first lower density foam area, wherein the first lower density foam area projects above the surface of the first higher density foam area on the first foam side, having a difference between the height of the first lower density foam area and the first higher density foam area of at least 1/16 inch;

(d) placing the insole within the insole receiving area with the first foam area facing the foot covering area.

52. (New) A method according to claim 51, wherein the step of attaching the outsole attachment area to the outsole further comprises attaching the upper and the outsole by stitching the outsole attachment area to an outsole retaining wall along a circumference of the outsole.

53. (New) A method according to claim 51, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the first lower density foam area is centrally located in the heel cushioning portion and the first higher density foam area surrounds the heel cushioning portion.

54. (New) A method according to claim 53, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the first lower density foam area is surrounded by a plurality of isolated lower density foam areas wherein the plurality of isolated lower density foam areas are separated from each other by portions of the first higher density foam area.

55. (New) A method according to claim 51, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the toe perimeter portion does not include a retaining wall, the retaining wall of the heel perimeter portion extends about 1/4 inch to about 1 inch above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion, and the arch support extends about 1/4 inch to about 1 inch above the top surface of the arch cushioning portion.

56. (New) A method according to claim 51, further comprising creating a plurality of perforations in the heel region, the arch region, and the toe region for increasing air circulation, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the insole comprises a perforation-free area that is adjacent to the heel region, arch region and toe region, wherein the perforations in the arch region are concentrated on and near the arch support, wherein the perforations in the arch region are concentrated on and near the arch support, and wherein the perforations in the toe region are concentrated near an end of the insole.

57. (New) A method according to claim 51, wherein the compression molding step is carried out on a unitary piece of foam to create the insole, so that the first high and low density foam areas are part of the unitary piece of foam.

58. (New) A method for manufacturing a slipper that includes an upper attached to an outsole, the method comprising:

- (a) providing the upper comprising an outsole attachment area and a foot covering area,
- (b) attaching the outsole attachment area of the upper to the outsole to provide an insole receiving area between the outsole and the foot covering area;
- (c) compression molding a foam structure to form an insole comprising a foam layer having a first foam side and a second foam side, to provide an insole comprising:
  - (i) a heel region having a heel cushioning portion and a heel perimeter portion, wherein the heel perimeter portion comprises a retaining wall that extends above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion;
  - (ii) an arch region having an arch cushioning portion and an arch perimeter portion, wherein the arch perimeter portion comprises an arch support that extends above the top surface of the arch cushioning portion; and
  - (iii) a toe region having a toe cushioning portion and a toe perimeter portion; and
  - (iv) wherein the heel cushioning portion includes a first higher density foam area and a first lower density foam area that is surrounded by the first higher density foam area, wherein the first lower density foam area is

surrounded by a plurality of isolated lower density foam areas, and the plurality of isolated lower density foam areas are separated from each other by portions of the first higher density foam area; and

- (d) placing the insole within the insole receiving area.

59. (New) A method according to claim 58, wherein the step of compression molding is carried out so that the toe perimeter portion does not include a retaining wall, the retaining wall of the heel perimeter portion extends about 1/4 inch to about 1 inch above the top surface of the heel cushioning portion, and the arch support extends about 1/4 inch to about 1 inch above the top surface of the arch cushioning portion.

60. (New) A method according to claim 58, further comprising creating a plurality of perforations in the heel region, the arch region, and the toe region for increasing air circulation, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the insole comprises a perforation-free area that is adjacent to the heel region, arch region and toe region, wherein the perforations in the arch region are concentrated on and near the arch support, wherein the perforations in the arch region are concentrated on and near the arch support, and wherein the perforations in the toe region are concentrated near an end of the insole.

61. (New) A method according to claim 58, further comprising creating a plurality of perforations in the heel region, the arch region, and the toe region for increasing air circulation, wherein the perforations are positioned so that the insole comprises a perforation-free area that is adjacent to the heel region, arch region and toe region.

62. (New) A method according to claim 58, wherein the compression molding step is carried out on a unitary piece of foam to create the insole, so that the first high and low density foam areas are part of the unitary piece of foam.